

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 5-19-53 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 5-18-53

WEATHER Unseasonably cold weather prevailed during the first four days of the week with hard freezing over the western and central portions of the State on several mornings and heavy to killing frosts over the eastern portion. Rains were generally light except that a few southwestern and northeastern localities received moderate to heavy amounts.

CROPS Winter wheat continued to make good progress. Reports from counties indicate any effects of subfreezing temperatures are not yet determined. Additional counties report presence of mosaic but prospects are generally improved and the outlook is now more favorable, particularly in the central and south central portions where moisture reserves were low prior to the recent rainfall. Some of the poorest fields have been plowed under in many localities. Top growth has reached 18 inches in many fields and much of the wheat has jointed. The oat crop outlook is rather dim. Low temperatures have delayed growth and many oat fields show the effects of low soil fertility. A number of oat fields have been prepared for corn planting due to poor stands and presence of weeds.

Corn planting was delayed by wet weather. By the end of the week 25 percent of the acreage had been planted as compared with 68 percent planted to May 17 last year. Two years ago 28 percent of the corn had been planted by May 20. Field work was also halted but can be rapidly finished under favorable weather conditions.

Home gardens and fruits were hit by last week's freezes. Sugar beet losses in the upper Platte Valley were not as great as first expected. Damage to beets and other crops was reduced by cloudy weather which followed the sharp freezes. Older stands of beets escaped damage but some nearly emerged stands were frozen and may be planted to corn, potatoes, or dry beans. Some stands of alfalfa were also frozen by the low temperatures over much of the State. Reports indicate cutworm damage to alfalfa has subsided. Some farmers in eastern Nebraska are spraying for sweet clover weevil. Pea aphids have been found in numerous red clover fields in eastern counties.

LIVESTOCK Some livestock and poultry death losses were reported in the path of the Hebron tornado. Calving is largely completed in the range areas and most indications point to a large percentage calf crop with small losses to date. Development of range grasses has been very slow due to cold and freezing weather. Many ranchers have been feeding hay and concentrates. Sheep shearing is virtually completed in southeastern Nebraska. There is a strong demand for feeder pigs. Cases of grass poisoning among cattle are reported from some southwestern counties.

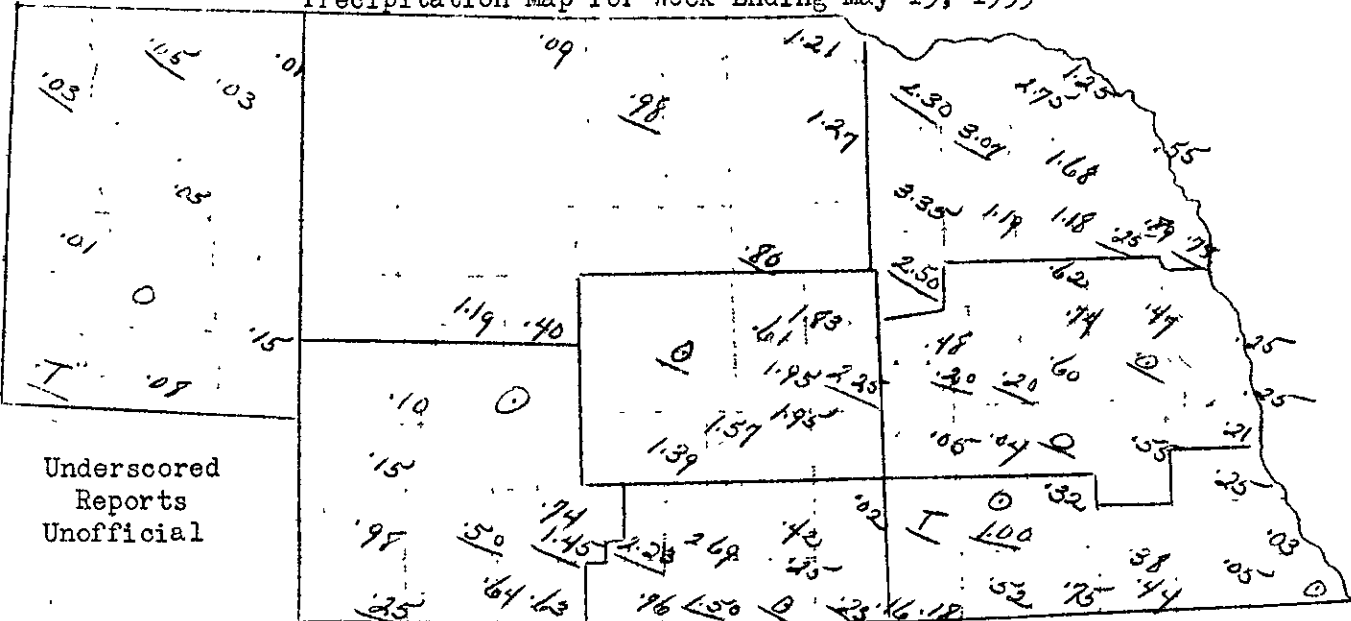
WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 18, 1953

| <u>Eastern Division</u> | <u>Central Division</u> | <u>Western Division</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Grand Island .45 | Burwell -- | Chadron .06 |
| Lincoln .27 | Lexington .43 | Imperial 1.44 |
| Norfolk .16 | North Platte .20 | Scottsbluff .44 |
| Omaha .35 | Valentine .42 | Sidney .22 |
| Sioux City .80 | | |

1250

5-19-53

Precipitation Map for Week Ending May 15, 1953



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (for 24 hours ending in a.m.)

| | | May | | 12th | | 13th | | 14th | | 15th | | 16th | | 17th | | 18th | |
|------|--------------|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|
| | | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min |
| NW | Chadron | 49 | 21 | 39 | 21 | 46 | 34 | 64 | 29 | 65 | 44 | 67 | 49 | 66 | 42 | | |
| | Scottsbluff | 60 | 22 | 38 | 28 | 49 | 31 | 67 | 40 | 67 | 45 | 64 | 44 | 64 | 44 | | |
| | Sidney | 61 | 20 | 40 | 25 | 45 | 27 | 64 | 38 | 66 | 45 | 60 | 37 | 63 | 34 | | |
| N-C | Burwell | 68 | 27 | 41 | 29 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | | |
| | Valentine | -- | -- | 40 | 28 | 47 | 32 | 66 | 40 | 64 | 45 | 67 | 48 | 66 | 47 | | |
| NE | Norfolk | 70 | 32 | 42 | 33 | 46 | 30 | 61 | 47 | 70 | 50 | -- | -- | 68 | 48 | | |
| | Sioux City | 59 | 34 | 44 | 34 | 53 | 38 | 64 | 46 | 74 | 48 | 71 | 50 | 68 | 49 | | |
| CEN. | Grand Island | 68 | 31 | 47 | 33 | 44 | 28 | 62 | 44 | 73 | 48 | 68 | 50 | 66 | 49 | | |
| | Lexington | 68 | 28 | 47 | 27 | 46 | 29 | 63 | 43 | 70 | 44 | 65 | 49 | 68 | 42 | | |
| E-C | Lincoln | 71 | 35 | 49 | 36 | 49 | 35 | 64 | 46 | 75 | 53 | 64 | 54 | 66 | 51 | | |
| | Omaha | 72 | 36 | 50 | 35 | 53 | 38 | 65 | 45 | 77 | 52 | 67 | 54 | 69 | 51 | | |
| SW | Imperial | 67 | 26 | 48 | 24 | 48 | 26 | 70 | 36 | 70 | 43 | 59 | 45 | 66 | 40 | | |
| | North Platte | 67 | 26 | -- | -- | 47 | 27 | 67 | 41 | 70 | 46 | 67 | 46 | 69 | 39 | | |

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